

ABSTRACT

Peptides as cell penetrating carriers

5 Compounds of formula (I) or their pharmaceutically or biologically acceptable salts are useful as cell penetrating carriers. According to formula (I), below, Val is L-Val or D-Val; Arg is L-Arg, D-Arg or L-(N-methyl)Arg; Pro is L-Pro or D-Pro; Leu is L-Leu or D-Leu; x is an integer from 1 to 20, preferably 3; L₁ and L₂ are chemical linkers; M₁ and M₂ are
10 pharmacologically and/or biologically active moieties; and the bond between L₁ and M₁ and the bond between L₂ and M₂ are of the known chemical natures, including covalent and ionic. Compared with other previously described carrier peptides, this new family presents several
15 advantages including its non-viral origin, its amphipathic character, its solubility in water and the absence of a cytotoxic effect at high concentrations.



(I)